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MRS. HUTTON PASSES AWAY

THE SUMMONS TO THE WIFE OF
THE FORMER CONGRESSMAN
COMES SUDDENLY.

Mrs. Effie Hutton, aged 75 years, wife of former Congressman John E. Hutton, died suddenly Tuesday morning, just before noon. Her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Harry Hutton, was with her when the summons came. Mrs. Hutton was assisting in preparing the dinner meal. She made an exclamation—and was gone in almost an instant! The affliction was apoplexy of the heart.

Mrs. Hutton's maiden name was Effie Gordon and she was from St. Louis. Her husband, who died some years ago, was one of the State's most distinguished citizens. For a long time he was editor of the Mexico Intelligencer.

Mrs. Hutton is survived by two sons, W. G. of St. Louis, city editor of the Republic, and Harry Hutton, of this city. She had lived in Mexico for 50 years or more. All knew her as a faithful Christian woman and splendid neighbor.

Mrs. R. G. Stillwell, of Hannibal, a niece, is here to attend the funeral which will be held this morning, May 27, at ten o'clock at the Presbyterian Church.

Price Johnson sold two cars of sheep in S. Louis this week which brought 10 cents a pound. Prosperity is here these days to the fellow who can get onto the market with sheep.

Township Sunday School Convention at Farber today.

Ninety-seven Mexico taxpayers have petitioned the City Council to erect septic tanks at the sewer outlets—issue bonds if necessary. That's the talk. Let's fix that nuisance down on the creek, below the city.

R. B. Hooton says his strawberries are not doing much. Too much rain this year, and too little rain last year. And there you have it.

The City Council voted down an ordinance to prohibit the sale of goods on the street.

Russell Casey of Kansas City and Roy Creasey of St. Louis, are here on a visit to their father, Mason Creasey, and to the family of W. H. Dempsey, near Thompson.

Miss Lena Bryarly entertained at a picnic in honor of her guests, Misses Carrie Terrell and Virginia Terrell of Moberly.

S. H. Richards, mail clerk on the South Branch, from Mexico to Jefferson City, is quite ill. Jeter Crews, of Mexico post-office, is on Mr. Richards' run at present.

M. M. A. COMMENCEMENT.

Rev. Grimes of Columbia Delivers Address to Graduates.

The Missouri Military Academy commencement service was held at the Methodist church Sunday morning. The following program was observed:

Hymn.
The Apostles' Creed.
Prayer.
Anthem by choir.
Scripture.
Trombone solo, Major Story.
Vocal solo, "Hear My Cry, O God," Miss Bruce.

Sermon, Rev. C. C. Grimes.
It was a most pleasant and instructive hour. Mr. Grimes used for his subject, "Faithkeepers and Faithbreakers." We must "keep the faith," like St. Paul, if we would win in any of the walks of life.

The Commencement Exercises of the Military Academy were held yesterday morning in the Academy gymnasium. The following program was observed:

Music.....Orchestra
Invocation.....Rev. O. J. Green
Cornet Solo.....Cadet Adj. McNally
Commencement Address
Rev. W. A. Shullenberger.
Vocal Solo.....Miss Bruce
Awarding of Medals
Col. W. D. Fonville.
Violin Solo.....Cadet C. J. Ward
Awarding of Diplomas
Dr. J. W. Millon
Reveille.....Bugle Corps

ROLL OF GRADUATES.
J. T. Anderson, Warrensburg, Mo.
Paul Bodley, Fairbury, Ill.
Earl Hagneur, St. Louis, Mo.
Frank May, Clarksville, Ark.
W. M. McNally, Salisaw, Okla.
W. F. Ramsey, Nashville, Ark.
C. M. Rubin, Marinette, Wis.
L. R. Sawyers, Eldon, Iowa.
H. C. Seip, Chicago, Ill.
D. P. Johnson, Mexico, Mo.
Wm. Hirth and son of Columbia

THE GOOD RAINS.

It rained Thursday, then Sunday, then Tuesday, and yesterday it was at it again; near four inches in all. Don't worry for the fear that there is too much. It can't rain too much. Let's get over that.

This soaking of the ground is proving of immense value to the wheat, is boosting the oats and corn and putting the meadows and pastures in fine shape.

Hope and cheer is on the farmer's face. In fact, everybody's happy. It's a game we all are interested in.

All Mexico mourns the passing of Mrs. Effie Hutton, wife of former Congressman John E. Hutton. Bright in mind, beautiful in character, the world is always the poorer when such are called hence.

The Message has a short note from Rev. John S. Jesse and family at Lebanon, Mo. Bro. Jesse sends us a dollar and says he hopes we can use it in our business. His letter was dated Friday. Cool, but no frost. All usually well.

Wheat sown with fertilizer in the vicinity of Hallsville has not been attacked by chinch bugs. Some are guessing that the fragrance of the fertilizer is more than Mr. Chinch Bug can endure.

Dr. W. L. Reed, one of Mexico's most popular dentists, celebrated his 'teenth birthday Tuesday. The doctor is still in his young days all right.

Mexico Savings Bank
Capital Stock, \$150,000.00
43rd Year in Business.
W. W. FRY, President.
SAM LOCKE, Cashier.



Rev. B. G. Reavis, who originated the "Community" Church idea at Rush Hill, which idea the Hon. Champ Clark says he rejoices first took hold in his Congressional district.

AT MISS GENEVIEVE'S WEDDING

ALL THE NINTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT INVITED TO "HONEY SNUCK."

Bowling Green, Mo., May 25.—William Jennings Bryan will not witness the marriage of Miss Genevieve Clark, only daughter of Speaker Champ Clark, to James McIlheny Thompson of New Orleans in Bowling Green June 15. The reason is that he will not be invited. The fact was made known in Bowling Green today and confirmed by a member of the speaker's official family.

Bryan will be the only man prominent in official life who does not receive an invitation. Every person of high and low degree in the Ninth Congressional district, all members of the Cabinet, except Bryan, all members of Congress, except one, and nearly five thousand persons famed in national and international life will be asked to be present.

Washington, May 25.—The Bowling Green, Mo., story that Secretary Bryan will not be invited to the wedding of the Speaker's daughter, Genevieve, June 15, was generally accepted as true in Washington official circles today and caused no surprise.

It was explained that the Bryans and Clarks have absolutely no social relations, that the Clarks always send "regrets" to functions—except those of the most formal official character—where they know they will meet the Bryans and that it would come as more of a surprise if invitations should be sent than if omitted to so personal an event as Miss Clark's wedding.

The coldness between the two families is recognized as dating from the Baltimore convention, altho it is the popular theory that Mrs. Clark rather than her husband is responsible for the open manifestations of it.

Bowling Green, Mo., May 25.—News stories that Secretary Bryan had been snubbed by Speaker Clark when the latter failed to include the Secretary's name in the list of persons invited to Miss Genevieve Clark's wedding, were denied today

when Speaker Clark issued a formal statement saying the story of the purported arrangements had not been authorized. His formal statement was:

Speaker Clark stated that the story, purporting to give details of his daughter's wedding, was entirely unauthorized by any member of his family, or anyone speaking for him. The details of the wedding have not been agreed upon nor the guest list made up, and the Speaker declines to be responsible for any unauthorized statements concerning them."

BUCKNER-CAVE WEDDING.

Invitations to the wedding of Miss Margaret Harrison Cave, daughter of Mrs. Margaret French Cave, of this city, to Mr. Jake Maddox Buckner have been issued. The wedding is June 5th at the home of the bride.

Popular young people and scores of friends extend them congratulations in advance.

The McMillan Sophomores were entertained at the home of Miss Alene Reed last Friday evening. A conversation was most cleverly carried out and greatly enjoyed. Music and a delectable lunch closed a merry evening.

Mrs. Thad Threlkeld and Miss Mabel Threlkeld are home from Columbia. Mabel attended the Beta Sig party, an elaborate spring time festivity.

Mrs. O. A. Adams and Mrs. John Abbey entertained Thursday for Mrs. Grover Cottingham of Roswell, N. M., and Miss Margaret Cave.

Showers and entertainments for Miss Margaret Cave included a unique "penny shower". The invitations were small bags and the "invitees saved up" for the occasion.

The city will buy the John Callahan property, in front of the Military Academy, which has been fenced for some time, and Grand Avenue will be opened again. The ground will cost \$500.

J. H. Hebel, north of Mexico, has a 40 acre field of wheat which is reported to be "shoulder high."

The Zander Glove Factory in this city has closed its doors.

GATHERINS IN AUDRAIN COUNTY

NOT STRONG ON ORGANIZATION—
STRONG ON PUBLIC DOINGS.

Joseph Smith of Thompson, Mo., sends the following interesting letter to the Missouri Ruralist:

"A great deal has been said and written about organizations among farmers, and about social feeling among the country people. Perhaps a few words about the folks in South Wilson Township in Audrain county might benefit someone.

We are not strong on organization as Audrain was the first county to release a farm advisor after giving one a trial, but the people are strong on public gatherings. Our community has an annual fish fry, usually the work of the three Sunday schools. The South Wilson farm bureau gave an all day picnic last August that was attended by about 400 persons and the day was taken up with lectures, judging contests, a free dinner and a general social time.

The latest social gathering was the annual Easter egg roast on Saturday night before Easter. We have been having the egg roast for four years, when the weather would permit. A large log heap is made and set on fire. Just at dark the people gather bringing eggs and such other eatables as they choose, but few bringing anything but salt and pepper and eggs. The eggs are roasted in hot ashes or boiled in kettles. This year we met in Joe Berry's pasture and spent three hours eating eggs and talking about oats sowing and getting ready for corn planting. Of course the women talked chicken. It was a cheerful and happy crowd of 160 men, women and children who went home feeling better toward themselves and their neighbors.

It will be remembered that this is the neighborhood where the Christian church pastor took charge of the telephone office and preached to his congregation over the phone.

I hope every member of the Ruralist family had as happy an Easter as the farm folks of South Wilson Township.

MOLINO ITEMS

Molino, Mo., May 25.—George Nicholson is visiting his parents in Callaway. Walter Henderson of Callaway is keeping house for him while he is away.

D. S. Weaver and family of near Skinner and Mrs. L. F. Tanner visited H. L. Weaver and family Saturday night and Sunday.

Mrs. John Helzer and daughter were guests of James Camplin and wife from Friday till Sunday.

Mrs. Herod Hopkins and little daughter visited Mrs. Fry of Perry one day last week.

Little Annie Robinson of Duly has been the guest of her grandparents, R. L. Robinson and wife, for a week.

Bob Helzer and wife and Gladys Crump visited relatives at Victor Saturday night and Sunday.

Misses Lillian Bybee and Carolyn Wilson were guests of Mrs. Lucy Massey of Mexico Friday night.

John Cowherd and wife and daughter of Mexico were guests of Porter Cauthorn and wife Tuesday.

Master Carter Henderson Cauthorn spent Saturday and Sunday as the guest of Mexico relatives.

Adolph and John Fennewald, near Martinsburg, marketed some fine cattle in St. Louis a few days ago. Adolph had 41 head of 1494-pound steers which brought \$8.65, and John had 62 head of 1124 pound steers which brought \$8.49.

Sterling Carter has a new automo.

WOULD RECOVER MONEY ON LIFE OF MURDERED SISTER

The Murderer Sentenced in The Audrain County Circuit Court—
An Unusual and Unprecedented Case Instituted
in Pike County.

The case of Griffith against the Mutual Protective League, on a life insurance policy, and which was heard by Judge Woolfolk at the recent term of Circuit Court, in Pike County, presented a novel and interesting question, and one which lawyers say is without an exact precedent in all the multitude of reported cases in the United States says the Bowling Green Times.

Bertie Nicholson of Vandalia took out a policy of insurance on her life for \$1,000 in the Mutual Protective League, a fraternal insurance order, one-half to be paid to her husband, John Nicholson, and the other half to her adopted son, Howard Nicholson, and in the event of the death of either her husband or adopted son, the surviving should have the whole amount; and in the event of the death of both, then her legal heirs should have the right to the insurance money.

In 1912 John Nicholson, presumably to get the insurance money, murdered his wife by throwing oil over her and setting her on fire. Howard, her adopted son, about 8 years old, in attempting to aid his mother, caught on fire and also died from his burns. The boy, however, died about 20 minutes before the mother.

John Nicholson, the husband, was arrested, charged with the murder of his wife and pleaded guilty and was sent to the penitentiary for life by Judge James D. Barnett in the Audrain Circuit Court.

The insurance company claimed that it was released from liability for the \$1,000 and was only required to refund the amount which Mrs. Nicholson had paid in by way of assessments and dues, which was about \$60. This amount the company paid to John Nicholson after he was sent to the penitentiary and took from him a release.

Mrs. Nicholson's two brothers, Homer and Barton Griffith, claimed the \$1,000 as her legal heirs and the company refusing to pay them, they thru their attorneys, J. O. Barrow and Hostetter & Haley, brought suit to collect the \$1,000.

It is contended by the attorneys for the Griffith brothers that John Nicholson by reason of his crime against the insured, his wife, lost and forfeited all his rights under the policy and that as they are the only legal heirs of Mrs. Nicholson remaining, they are therefore entitled to the insurance money.

On the other hand it is contended by the insurance company, which is represented by its general counsel, Judge Edward Doocy, of Pittsfield, Ill., and by Messrs. Tapley & Fitzgerald, that it does not, under the wording of the policy, owe any more than the \$60, which was paid by Mrs. Nicholson.

Upon the motion of the insurance company that it does not now know whether the \$60 it admits to be due is properly payable to John Nicholson or to Mrs. Nicholson's heirs, an order was made by court directing that an administrator be appointed for John Nicholson, who the physically alive in the penitentiary is deemed in-law physically dead.

Consequently, John W. Howell, public administrator of Audrain county, was appointed administrator of John Nicholson, and became a party to the suit, and claims the \$1,000 for John Nicholson.

The case was argued orally at considerable length by the attorneys and Judge Woolfolk took it under advisement with the request that the attorneys file briefs with him giving the benefit of their further search among the authorities for additional light on the most unusual and unprecedented case. A decision will likely not be made before the October term.